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**Statement by Robert Klein Chair, Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee for the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine**

Posted: March 23, 2005

**Regarding Today's Decision by the California Supreme Court Not To Hear Stem Cell Agency Cases**

Emeryville, CA – Robert Klein, Chair of the Independent Citizens' Oversight Committee for the California Institute for Regenerative Medicine, made the following statement regarding today's decision by the California Supreme Court to deny two stem cell agency petitions:

"Proposition 71, the California Stem Cell Research and Cures Act, is designed to promote innovation and to be capable of responding to challenge. We would have preferred for the California Supreme Court to rule on this litigation, but the Institute will now consider its options and take prompt action on an alternative plan. We are dedicated to honoring the voters' mandate to move forward with this vital, lifesaving research to develop therapies and search for cures at the earliest possible date."

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